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light externally from the optical recording medium is multilevel-modulated and recorded in response to a rotation of a polarization angle of said recording light; and

a substrate which sustains the optical recording layer.

55. (Thrice-Amended) An optical recording medium, comprising an optical recording layer having at least one of a polymer or a liquid crystal polymer in which an optical element is formed by a recording light that is externally controlled from the optical recording medium to rotate a polarization angle of the recording light, the optical element having an azimuth of birefringence and acting on reproducing light to adjust a polarization angle of the reproducing light by an amount greater than a difference between a polarization angle of the recording light used to form the optical element and a polarization angle of the reproducing light before the reproducing light is acted on by the optical element; and

a substrate which sustains the optical recording layer.

REMARKS

Claims 1-55 are pending in this application. By this Supplemental Amendment, claims 1, 21, 35, 37, 39 and 55 are amended to obviate the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes a marked-up copy of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Applicants gratefully appreciate the courtesy extended to Applicants' attorney during the July 20, 2001 personal interview with Examiner Chu. The points discussed throughout the personal interview are reemphasized in this Supplemental Amendment.

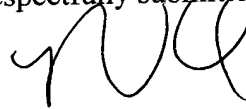
Claims 1-10, 21, 35-39 and 55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention. Applicants amend claims 1,

21, 35, 37, 39 and 55 to obviate the rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-55 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe any further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

→ Richard S. Elias
Registration No. P-48,806

JAO:RSE/ala

Date: August 3, 2001

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claims:

1. (~~Thrice~~~~Twice~~-Amended) An optical recording medium, comprising at least one optical recording layer, the optical recording layer including an optical recording material having at least one of a polymer or a liquid crystal polymer that changes a state of photo-induced birefringence in response to a recording light that is externally controlled from the optical recording medium to rotate a polarization angle of the recording light, a portion of the recording layer that changes a state of photo-induced birefringence substantially acting optically as a half-wave plate; and

a substrate which sustains the optical recording layer.

21. (~~Thrice~~~~Twice~~-Amended) An optical recording medium, comprising an optical recording layer that includes a material having at least one of a polymer or a liquid crystal polymer in which an azimuth of birefringence that is induced by a recording light externally controlled from the optical recording medium to rotate a polarization angle of the recording light changes in response to a rotation of the polarization angle of said recording light; and

a substrate which sustains the optical recording layer.

35. (~~Thrice~~~~Twice~~-Amended) An optical recording medium, comprising an optical recording layer including an optical recording material having at least one of a polymer or a liquid crystal polymer that stores multilevel information using a light induced birefringence that acts optically as a half-wave plate, an orientation of an azimuth of birefringence formed by a recording light representing the multilevel information, the recording light externally controlled from the optical recording medium to rotate a polarization angle of the recording light; and

a substrate which sustains the optical recording layer.

37. (~~Thrice~~~~Twice~~-Amended) An optical recording medium, comprising an optical recording layer including an optical recording material having at least one of a polymer or a liquid crystal polymer that stores multilevel information using a light induced birefringence that acts optically as a quarter-wave plate, at orientation of an azimuth of birefringence induced by controllably rotating a polarization angle of a recording light externally from the optical recording medium that represents the multilevel information; and

a substrate which sustains the optical recording layer.

39. (~~Thrice~~~~Twice~~-Amended) An optical recording medium, comprising an optical recording layer having at least one of a polymer or a liquid crystal polymer in which an azimuth of birefringence induced by controllably rotating a polarization angle of a recording light externally from the optical recording medium is multilevel-modulated and recorded in response to a rotation of a polarization angle of said recording light; and

a substrate which sustains the optical recording layer.

55. (~~Thrice~~~~Twice~~-Amended) An optical recording medium, comprising an optical recording layer having at least one of a polymer or a liquid crystal polymer in which an optical element is formed by a recording light that is externally controlled from the optical recording medium to rotate a polarization angle of the recording light, the optical element having an azimuth of birefringence and acting on reproducing light to adjust a polarization angle of the reproducing light by an amount greater than a difference between a polarization angle of the recording light used to form the optical element and a polarization angle of the reproducing light before the reproducing light is acted on by the optical element; and

a substrate which sustains the optical recording layer.